Appl No. 10/666,490
Amdt. Dated January 27, 2006
Reply to Office Communication of December 29, 2005

Docket NO CEN0312NP

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

(a) remove blank lines on page 5, lines 14-16;

~~In another aspect, the invention provides isolated nucleic acid molecules encoding a(n) IL18 or IL-18R protein having an amino acid sequence as encoded by the nucleic acid contained in the plasmid deposited as designated clone names _____ and ATCC Deposit Nos. _____, respectively, deposited on _____.~~

(b) delete extra "( )" in phrase "95%-1000%" on page 14, line 13:

preferably at least 80%, 90%, or 95%-1000% of that of the native ~~(non-synthetic)~~, endogenous or related

(c) change "TNF-_" at page 30, line 33-35, to <u>TNF-alpha:</u>

TNF<u>-alpha</u> ~~_~~ with high affinity and possess low immunogenicity). A functional equivalent of TNF receptor molecule also includes modified TNF receptor molecules that functionally resemble TNF receptor molecules that can be used in the present invention (e.g., bind TNF<u>-alpha</u> ~~_~~ with high affinity and possess

(d) change "www.copewithcytokines.com" to <u>www.copewithcytokines.de</u>, at page 31, line 5:

Cytokines include any known cytokine. See, e.g., CopewithCytokines.<u>de</u> ~~com~~. Cytokine

On page 45, lines 1-21, please amend as follows:

1

~~IL-1   APVRSLNC TLRDSQQKSL VM SGPYE LKALHLQGQD MEQQVVFSMS~~

2

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IL-18   YFGKLESKLS VIRNLNDQVL FIDQGNRPLF EDMTDSDCRD NAPRTIFIIS

              51
IL-1   FVQGEESNDK IPVALGLKEK NLYLSCVLKD DKPTLQLESV DPKNYPKKKM
IL-18   MYKDSQPRGM AVTISVKCEK ISTLSC   ENKIISFKEM NPPDNIKDTK

              101
IL-1   EKRFVFNKI EINNKLEFE SAQFPNWYIS TSQAENMPVF LGGTKGGQDI
IL-18   SDIIFFQRSV PGHDNKMQFE SSSYEGYFLA CEKERDLFKL I LKKEDEL

              151
IL-1   TDFTMQFVSS
IL-18   GDRSIMFTVQ NED

Initial amino acid numbering refers to the positions in IL-1 and the IL-1 receptor. Once the IL-18/IL-18 receptor structure was complete, the structure was renumbered to be consistent with IL-18/IL-18 receptor numbering. The amino acids in IL-1 were electronically mutated to the IL-18 sequence. Additions or deletions were ignored at this point.